

(Practitioner's Docket No. IN- 5531)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Maxime Euring ALLARD, et al

Serial No.: 10/009,394

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

Filed: October 25, 2001

Examiner: not yet assigned.

FOr: Highly Scratch Resistant Multilayer Cost, Method For Producing And Use Of The Same AFTN: EXAMINER S. Ahmed Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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(Practitioner's Docket No. IN-5531)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Application of

Maxime Euring ALLARD, Cyrille JAECQUES, and Isabelle KAUFFER

US Serial No.: 10/009.394

Filed: October 25, 2001

For: Highly Scratch-Resistant Multi-Layer Paint Coating, Method For Producing The Same And The Use Thereof Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

I hereby certify that the following PAGES are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office

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Sandra Barry

COMMUNICATION FOR SUBMITTING THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a copy of the English Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report for the above-mentioned patent application.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submitting the English Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report. However, if applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a fee the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3425.

This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Registration No. 36.814

Date: <u>January 3, 2002</u> BASF Corporation 26701 Telegraph Road Southfield, Michigan 48034-2442 (248)-948-2020

ĎŘĚST ... Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP00/03267

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 00/03267

Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims	-	NO NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	- 1-14	YES
*	Claims		700

Citations and explanations

Independent Claims 1 to 8

Independent Claims 1 to 4 concern clear varnishing or multi-layer varnishing hardened by actinic radiation. Claim 1 discloses partial hardening of a first clear varnish layer, the application of a second clear varnish layer and then joint hardening of the two layers. Claim 2 discloses hardening and abrading of a first clear varnish layer, the application of a second clear varnish layer and then hardening of the second clear varnish layer and then hardening of the second clear varnish layer.

Claim 3 discloses partial hardening of a first clear varnish layer applied wet-in-wet to a base varnish layer, the application of a second clear varnish layer and then joint hardening.

Claim 4 discloses hardening and abrading of a first clear varnish layer applied wet-in-wet to a base varnish layer, application of a second clear varnish layer and then hardening of the second clear varnish layer.

Claims 5 to 8 refer to the methods corresponding to Claims 1 to 4.

The search report citation, EP-A-0 568 967, does not

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International application No.
PCT/EP 00/03267

suggest to a person skilled in the ert one of the claimed procedures for producing the coats.

Consequently, Claims 1 to 8 meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3) since their subject matter is novel and involves an inventive step.

Dependent Claims 9 to 12

These dependent claims contain developments of the subject matter of the independent claims and are therefore also novel and involve an inventive step.

Claims 13 and 14

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The prior art does not disclose either a use of the coats, which use corresponds to the subject matter of Claim 13, nor products containing the coat and corresponding to the subject matter of Claim 14.

Consequently, Claims 13 and 14 also meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).

Industrial applicability

The subject matter of the claims is clearly industrially applicable as defined in PCT Article 33(4).

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP 00/03267

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

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The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Independent Claims I to 4 each refer to coats that are defined not by technical features of the coat itself but only by method steps for its production.

Consequently, the category of these claims is not clear and these claims do not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 (cf. PCT Guidelines, Section IV, III-3.1).

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